

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 /116 W

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R 030748Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6342

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION USUN NY

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 7850

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, CY, TU, US

SUBJ: TURK-CYPRIT AIDE MEMOIRE AND TRAVEL REGULATIONS

REF: USUN 3532 (SECTO 13)

1. DCM MET WITH DIRGEN HAMID BATU OF FONOFF AT 1530 LOCAL
OCTOBER 2. CONVERSATION LASTED AN HOUR.

2. DCM MADE PRESENTATION OUTLINED REFTEL.

3. DURING PRESENTATION, BATU INTERPOSED QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS
FROM TIME TO TIME. AT CONCLUSION, HE MADE "PRELIMINARY
UNOFFICIAL COMMENTS:"

A. DOES GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS REALLY EXIST? CYPRUS
CONSTITUTION HAD BEEN ABOLISHED "BIT BY BIT" AT FIRST, THEN
COMPLETELY BY SAMSON COUP. AS FAR AS HE COULD SEE, ALL
COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING ACCESS TO TERRORITY, ETC., SHOULD
BE DIRECTED BY US EMBASSY NICOSIA TO TURK-CYPRIT
AUTONOMOUS AUTHORITIES DIRECTLY. THESE WERE "MORE OR LESS"
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GOT VIEWS. DE FACTO SITUATION ON ISLAND, HE CONTINUED, WAS

REINFORCED BY FACT THAT THREE GUARANTOR POWERS IN GENEVA ON JULY 30 HAD NOTED "EXISTENCE IN PRACTICE IN THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS TWO AUTONOMOUS ADMINISTRATIONS." IN OTHER WORDS, HE WENT ON, DE FACTO SITUATION ON CYPRUS HAD BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE THREE GUARANTORS.

B. GOT WOULD PROBABLY BE RECEIVING MESSAGE FROM TURK AUTHORITIES NICOSIA ON THESE MATTERS. THESE WERE QUESTIONS WHICH CONCERNED THE TURKISH AUTONOMOUS ADMINISTRATION MORE THAN THE GOT. BUT, GOT WAS INTERESTED IN MAINTAINING GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES. ACCORDINGLY, GOT WOULD TAKE UP BOTH WITH DENKTASH AND "AUTONOMOUS ADMINISTRATION" QUESTIONS DCM HAD RAISED.

C. HIS INTERIM PERSONAL ADVICE WAS FOR US EMBASSY NICOSIA AND OTHER DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS THERE TO TAKE THE MOST OBVIOUS COURSE, I.E., TO WORK OUT PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH AUTONOMOUS ADMINISTRATION ON DE FACTO BASIS. US AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTED IN CYPRUS HAD ADEQUATE MEANS AT THEIR DISPOSAL TO RESERVE THEIR DE JURE POSITIONS.

4. DCM'S RESPONSE EMPHASIZED FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. CYPRUS CONSTITUTION REMAINED BASIS FOR USG RELATIONS WITH AND PRESENCE ON ISLAND AS DIPLOMATIC MISSION TO INDEPENDENT SOVEREIGN STATE. THROUGHOUT PAST ELEVEN YEARS USG HAD PROBABLY EARNED AS GOOD A TRACK RECORD AS ANY FOREIGN POWER IN MAINTAINING OFFICIAL AND PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH TURK CYPRIOT OFFICIALS AND IN DEMONSTRATING ITS SUPPORT FOR FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF CONSTITUTION. (TO THIS BATU AGREED.)

B. USG HAD PUBLICLY INDICATED THAT REVISION OF CONSTITUTION WAS SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION AMONG PARTIES. OUR STATEMENTS HAD NOT RULED OUT CONCEPT OF GEOGRAPHIC SEPARATION OF TWO COMMUNITIES ON ISLAND. AT SAME TIME WE WERE CONVINCED THAT FUTURE CONSTITUTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS HAD TO BE FREELY NEGOTIATED BY THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED.

C. MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE IN OUR DISCUSSION WAS PRACTICAL ONE. RESOLUTION OF CYPRUS PROBLEM WOULD REQUIRE ESTABLISHMENT OF ENVIRONMENT FOR ESSENTIAL NEGOTIATIONS AMONG PARTIES.
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THIS WAS NOT EASY TASK BUT USG HAD OFFERED TO HELP AND WE WERE HAVING MEANINGFUL DISCUSSIONS WITH GOT ON THIS POINT. IT WAS VEY MUCH TO GOT'S INTEREST TO AVOID SITUATIONS IN WHICH USG WOULD HAVE TO TAKE POSITIONS OR ACTIONS ON CYPRUS WHICH WOULD PREJUDICE USG'S ABILITY TO BE HELPFUL.

5. BATU CONCLUDED CONVERSATION BY MAKING FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. GOT DEEPLY APPRECIATED USG'S DESIRE TO BE HELPFUL.
PRESIDENT FORD'S ATTITUDE IN CURRENT CONGRESSIONAL DEBATES
HAD IMPRESSED ALL TURKISH PEOPLE.

B. HE REGRETTED THAT THINGS WERE NOT MOVING MORE
QUICKLY TOWARDS ACCEPTABLE NEGOTIATED SOLUTION OF CYPRUS
PROBLEM. TURKEY'S GOVERNMENT CRISIS AND UPCOMING
ELECTIONS IN GREECE MADE THINGS SLOWER.

C. HE HAD TAKEN FULL NOTE OF USG POSITION. HE WOULD
PROBABLY BE GETTING IN TOUCH TO EXPLAIN GOT POSITION IN
GREATER DETAIL. GOT WOULD PROBABLY PRESENT FURTHER LEGAL
ARGUMENTS.

D. GOT WOULD "SEE WHAT IT COULD DO" WITH TURKISH
AUTONOMOUS ADMINISTRATION ON ISLAND. "WE WILL USE OUR
GOOD OFFICES." ON THE OTHER HAND, HE URGED "OFF THE RECORD"
THAT USG, WHILE FULLY RESERVING ITS DE JURE POSITION,
FIND MEANS TO WORK ON
DE FACTO BASIS WITH TURKISH AUTONOMOUS ADMINISTRATION.

6. COMMENT: WHILE WE RECOGNIZE IMPORTANCE OF THIS
QUESTION, IT SEEMS FROM OUR VANTAGE POINT HERE TO LOOM LESS
LARGELY THAN OTHER ISSUES WHICH WILL REQUIRE A CONSIDERABLE
USG EFFORT TO PERSUADE AND INFLUENCE THE GOT IN THE DAYS
IMMEDIATELY AHEAD. WE SUGGEST THAT WHEN GOT COMES BACK
WITH ITS COMMENT AND FURTHER LEGAL ARGUMENTS, AND THE BASIC
REPLY IS AS EXPECTED, WE EXPRESS CONSIDERABLE UNHAPPINESS
BUT THEN LET THE MATTER REST THERE - AT LEAS UNTIL WE CAN
CAREFULLY CONSIDER WHETHER, IN THE SCALE OF OUR PRIORITIES,
THIS IS AN OBJECTIVE WHICH MERITS SIGNIFICANT EXPENDITURE OF
OUR INFLUENCE HERE.

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